



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Authorization For Wide Area Network (WAN) Engineering Services And Equipment Purchase (\$75,000)

MEETING DATE: April 1, 1998

PREPARED BY: Deputy City Manager and Information Systems Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council authorize Angus-Hamer, Incorporated to provide Wide Area Network (WAN) engineering services for a WAN and that the City Council authorize staff to implement the recommended network design in an amount not to exceed a total of \$75,000 which includes the engineering, equipment and installation of the system.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The City Council, during its December 18, 1996 City Council meeting, approved an Information Strategic Plan in which various actions were recommended for approval. One item in particular which continues to be of great importance to City efficiencies is connectivity, and the ability of departments to be able to communicate to each other via computers and networks.

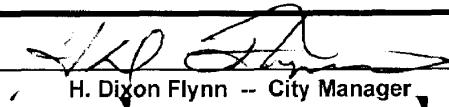
Mr. Stan Helmle, the City's Information Systems Manager, has reviewed in detail the City's current computer systems and networks and concurs with the original 1996 recommendation for City-wide connectivity. Currently, the data network at the City of Lodi is a collection of distributed networks which do not talk to each other.

The WAN will provide the following benefits to the City:

- Enable e-mailing between and among departments
- Allow for file transfers and sharing
- Improve access to City-wide information and maps
- Provide for access to the future Customer Information System
- Provide for access to the new Financial Systems Software
- Allow for remote diagnostics
- Allow for Intranet access
- Reduce the number of business and modem phone lines
- Provide remote scheduling of staff and resources
- Encourage reduction in paper

In order to facilitate a WAN, engineering of the system must first be designed to ensure that the technology is accurately, and cost-effectively planned for current and future needs of the City. City staff members, although quite competent in information technology, are not able to take on a project such as one of this magnitude without outside expert assistance. This project is highly specialized and requires state-of-the-art knowledge of new and emerging technologies.

APPROVED: _____

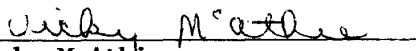

H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

Angus-Hamer, Incorporated has the knowledge and expertise to successfully engineer the City of Lodi's WAN. Angus will provide the engineering of the system and will create the specifications for the actual hardware, software, and implementation schedule. The specifications will be designed in such a fashion that staff will be able to negotiate with the best qualified and most able to implement the design at the best cost to the City.

Staff's knowledge will be augmented by going through the engineering process and will be able to maintain the system in the future.

Engineering services will cost approximately \$10,000 - \$15,000 with the balance of the project costs for the actual equipment and implementation.

FUNDING: \$50,000 Capital Outlay (current budget)
\$25,000 Contingency


Vicky McAthie
Finance Director

Respectfully,



Janet S. Keeter
Deputy City Manager

JSK